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June 29, 2006

Mr. J. I. Palmer, Jr., Regional Administrator  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: June 2006 Early Action Progress Report

Dear Mr. Palmer:

South Carolina continues to be committed to the 8-hour Ozone Early Action Process. Partnership opportunities have been developed and the awareness of local officials about air quality issues has resulted in proactive, voluntary and regulatory actions that would not have occurred without the Early Action Compact (EAC) process. In South Carolina we continue to see activities that remain a part of the EAC process, above and beyond that required of an area with a "traditional" nonattainment designation.

Based upon data from the EPA's Air Quality System (AQS) all of the ozone monitors in South Carolina were in attainment of the 8-hour ozone standard over the 2003-2005 ozone seasons. This was accomplished even though one monitor (Sandhills - Richland County) had a 4<sup>th</sup> high value of 0.086 parts per million during the 2005 ozone season. There have not been any 4<sup>th</sup> high values above the ozone standard thus far during the 2006 ozone season. Once all of the 2006 data has been verified the necessary updates will be provided.

South Carolina EAC's identify "key" milestones that are required for the continued deferral of the effective date of nonattainment designations and also milestones that track the progress being made by the state and local areas toward adoption and implementation of emission reduction measures. The attached document includes the table provided by EPA's guidance document of October 17, 2005, for each participating county identifying each of the local measures included in their respective local early action plan. Additionally, a narrative description of activity from the five deferred nonattainment areas is included in Enclosure 1. Information regarding stakeholder meetings and other activities that have occurred since December 2005, as well as specific details documenting the progress toward measures included in the local early action plans is included for each county and is grouped by the following areas:

Appalachian: Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg  
Catawba: Chester, Lancaster, Union, York  
Pee Dee: Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion, Marlboro  
Waccamaw: Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg  
Santee Lynches: Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter  
Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester: Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester  
Low Country: Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper  
Lower Savannah: Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Orangeburg  
Central Midlands: Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland  
Upper Savannah: Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, Saluda

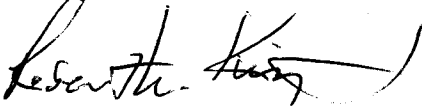
While the emission reduction strategies submitted by the local areas contain both quantifiable and directionally sound measures, it should be noted that none of them were included in the attainment demonstration model for 2007. Nonetheless, it is expected that these measures will assist the counties in achieving and/or maintaining compliance with the 8-hour ozone standard.

A table and narrative description identifying statewide activities and progress made toward each is also included as well as information regarding a number of future activities that the state is involved with such as the planning of the EAC Summit, the Southeastern Diesel Collaborative, and the results from our Federal Facilities survey. South Carolina looks forward to working with EPA and other stakeholders in these future activities.

The Department continues to be pleased with the energy of the participants in the EAC process including counties, agencies, universities, organizations, businesses, industries and environmental groups. The continuing effort of these groups is a marvelous example of partnerships in many directions. Each of these diverse parties has come together for a worthy common goal of providing cleaner air sooner to the citizens of South Carolina. Additionally, we are excited about the 2006 Ozone Early Action Compact Summit (to be held on August 16-17 2006) and the opportunity it will provide for further collaboration between all partners to achieve cleaner air sooner.

Thank you for the continued assistance and support EPA has provided in this process. We look forward to continuing to work with EPA and other stakeholders as we implement measures to achieve cleaner air sooner for our citizens. Should you have questions or desire additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (803) 896-8940 or Myra Reece, Chief of the Bureau of Air Quality at (803) 898-4123.

Sincerely,



Robert W. King, Jr., P.E.  
Deputy Commissioner  
Environmental Quality Control

Enclosures

cc: Kay Prince, EPA Region 4  
County Officials (no attachments\*)  
Ron Methier, GA Dept. of Natural Resources (no attachments\*)  
Keith Overcash, NC Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources (no attachments\*)  
Myra Reece (no attachments\*)  
EQC Regional Directors (no attachments\*)

\*All those not receiving attachments will be notified when materials are placed on our website.

**South Carolina's Ozone Early Action Compact**  
**June 2006 Progress Report**  
**Enclosures**  
**June 30, 2006**

1. Local EAC Activities for Participating Areas
2. Statewide EAC Activities
3. Federal Facility Survey Results